(c) The issue of differences between the official estimates of poverty and estimates being made by the States is currently under consideration by an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Professor Suresh Tendulkar, Chairman of the National Statistical Commission.

Current definition of poverty

3335. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that currently definition of poverty is based on a fifteen year old definition proposed by the Lakdawala Committee way back in 1993;

if so, whether Government has a plan to set a fresh criteria to measure poverty for the Eleventh Plan; and

if so, the details and steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. The definition of poverty currently used by the Planning Commission is based on the recommendations made by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor in 1993. The Expert Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. D.T. Lakdawala.

(b) The Planning Commission has used the criteria outlined in the Report of the Expert Group of Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor to measure poverty in the Eleventh Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds allocated to States

3336. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

whether State Government and particularly Government of NCT, Delhi have been* allocated funds for maintenance of slums, execution of works related to provision for basic facilities to the citizens of urban areas alongwith developmental works including for other schemes during past and current Five Year Plans; and

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the amount allocated to States by Centre so far alongwith their dates and names of schemes during past and current Five Year Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The main schemes for providing basic facilities to slums in urban areas during Ninth and Tendi Five Year Plans were 'Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY)' and "National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)'.

VAMBAY* was launched in 2001, as Centrally Sponsored Scheme, and Rs. 1093.93 crore, including Rs. 57.62 crore for NCT Delhi, were allocated during 2001-02 to 2005-06.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.